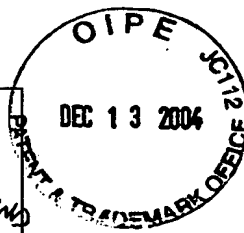


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 10, 2004

Signature: *Li Hsien Rin-Laures*

Li-Hsien Rin-Laures



Docket No.: 29473/10277
(PATENT)

(64P)
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Darji et al.,

Application No.: 09/419,545

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed: October 18, 1999

Examiner: S. Devi

For: ATTENUATED SALMONELLA STRAIN
USED AS A VEHICLE FOR ORAL
IMMUNIZATION

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED AUGUST 11, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In a non-final Office Action (the "Action") mailed August 11, 2004, claims 1-6, 9, 10, and 17-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, claims 1-3, 9-10 and 17-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and claims 1 and 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

This amendment is timely filed with a one month petition for extension of time.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 7.